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- Intelligence Sources and
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REPORT CLASS - ~~SECRET~~ - ~~UNINTEL~~

COUNTRY: ARGENTINA.

SUBJECT: PLANS OF COMMITTEE OF 25 FOR GENERAL STRIKE IN MARCH 1979
WITH KNOWLEDGE AND ACQUIESCENCE OF LT. GENERAL ROBERTO

VIOLA

EO25x1

Argentina

1.

THE LEADERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF 25, A GROUP OF
LABOR LEADERS REPRESENTING 20 INTERVENED UNIONS AND FIVE NON-
INTERVENED UNIONS, ARE PREPARING AN ACTION TO TAKE PLACE IN

MARCH 1979 WHICH COULD BECOME A NATION WIDE GENERAL STRIKE PRO-
TESTING THE POLICIES OF DR. JOSE ALFREDO MARTINEZ DE Hoz

Argentina
Minister of Economy

PAGE 3 [REDACTED] ~~SECRET~~ [REDACTED] UNINTEL

H O Z, MINISTER OF ECONOMY. PRIOR TO STARTING THE ACTION, THE COMMITTEE OF 25 WISHES TO HAVE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ARMY MAKING IT CLEAR THAT THE STRIKE IS DIRECTED AGAINST THE ECONOMIC POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT AND NOT AGAINST THE ARMY, AND THAT THE LABOR UNIONS ARE NOT SEEKING A CONFRONTATION WITH THE ARMY. THE COMMITTEE OF 25 IS IN TOUCH WITH AN ACTIVE DUTY ARMY COLONEL WHO IS CLOSE TO LT. GENERAL ROBERTO V I O L A, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ARMY BUT WHO IS NOT AN OFFICIAL OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOR. THIS COLONEL, WHO IS NOT ASSOCIATED WITH ANY OF THE UNIONS, ACTS AS AN UNOFFICIAL LIAISON BETWEEN LABOR AND VIOLA. USING THIS COLONEL AS A GO-BETWEEN, THE COMMITTEE OF 25 AND VIOLA HAVE APPARENTLY REACHED AN AGREEMENT THAT THE ARMY WILL NOT INTERFERE AND THAT THE STRIKE WILL CLEARLY BE A PROTEST AGAINST MARTINEZ DE HOZ.

EO25x1

2. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] BOTH THE COMMITTEE OF 25 AND ITS RIVAL LABOR ORGANIZATION, THE NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF LABOR, HAVE WELL-ADVANCED PLANS FOR A STRIKE TO BEGIN IN LATE FEBRUARY OR EARLY MARCH 1979 TO

PAGE 4 [REDACTED] ~~SECRET~~ [REDACTED] UNINTEL

BE SPEARHEADED BY THE RAILROAD WORKERS UNIONS. IN ADDITION,
ON 25 JANUARY 1979 THE COMMITTEE OF 25 ISSUED A "WORKERS
STATE OF ALERT" AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC POLICIES,
WHICH IS TRADITIONALLY THE FIRST STEP TOWARD A STRIKE. WHILE

VIOLA HAS LONG BEEN RUMORED TO BE LESS THAN ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT
MARTINEZ DE HOZ, HE HAS TAKEN NO ACTION THAT WOULD DETRACT
FROM ~~PRESIDENT JORGE RAFAEL VITTIOLA~~'S UNFLAGGING SUPPORT
OF THE MINISTER OF ECONOMY. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] MAY INDICATE THAT VIOLA HAS FINALLY DECIDED THAT HIS CONTIN-
UED SILENCE ON MARTINEZ DE HOZ IS A POLITICAL LIABILITY AND THAT
BY TAKING STEPS TO ADD TO THE CRITICISM OF THE MINISTER OF
ECONOMY, HE CAN ERODE THE ABILITY OF SENIOR HARDLINE ARMY
OFFICERS TO ATTACK HIM PERSONALLY.)

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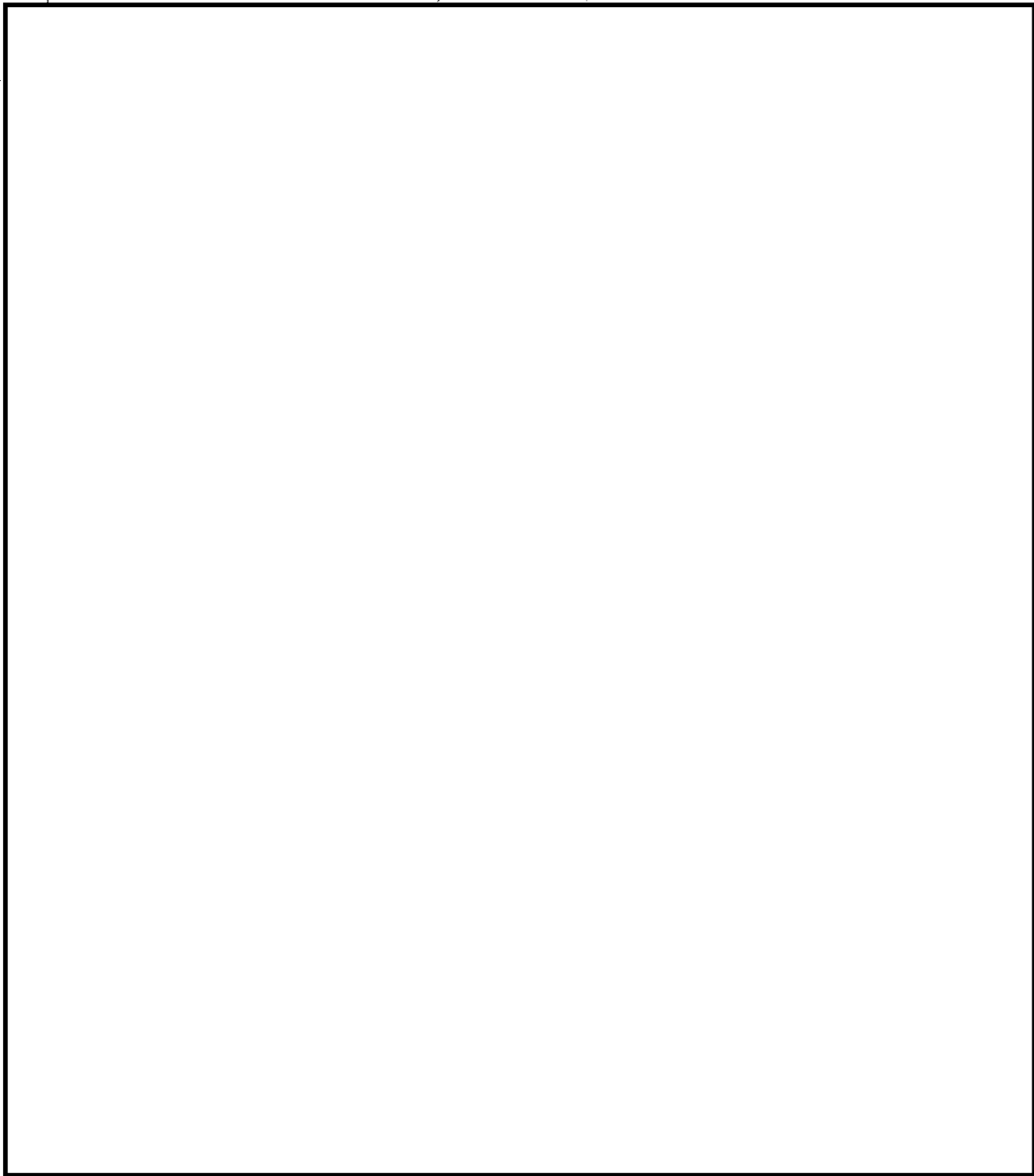
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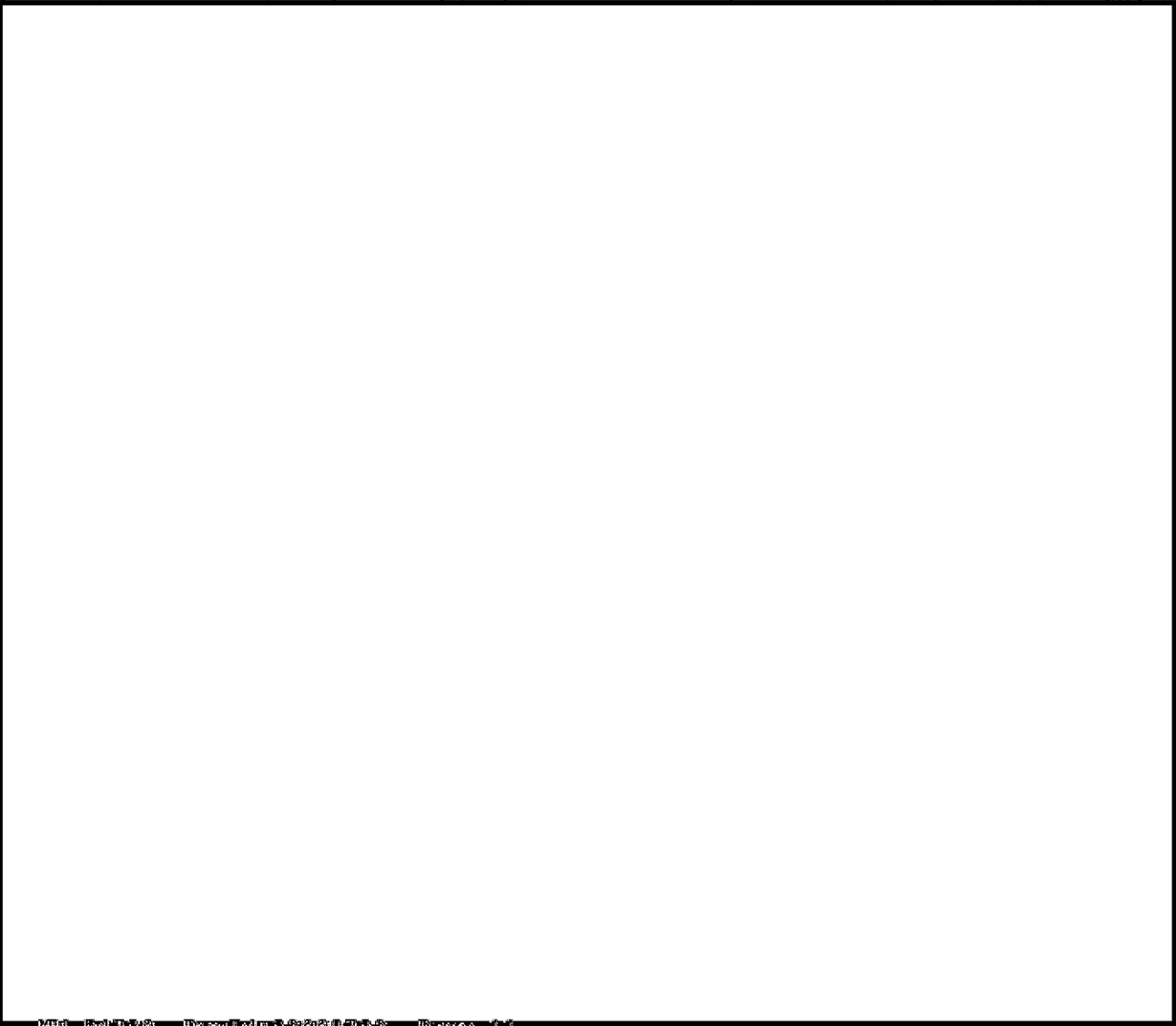
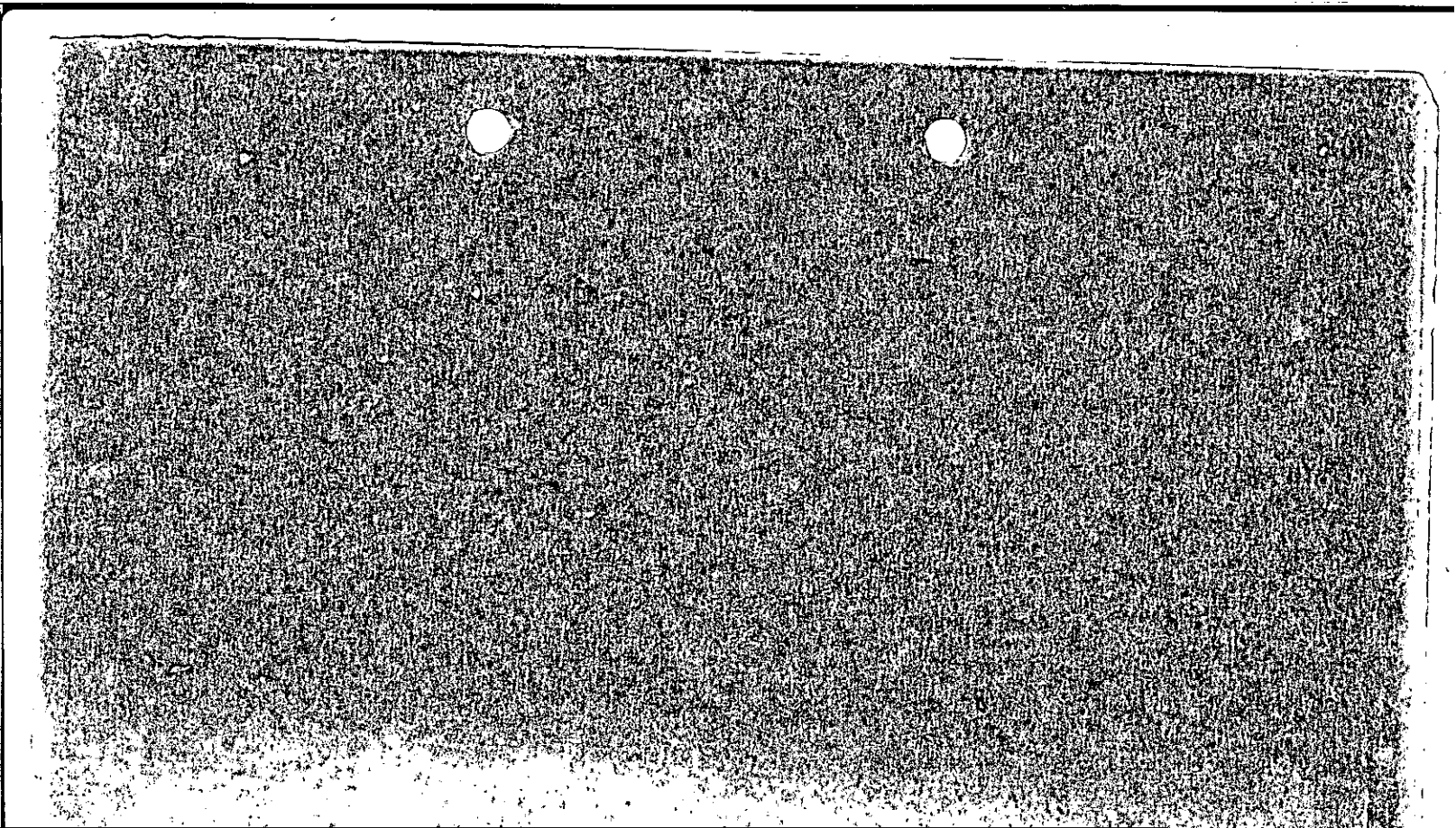
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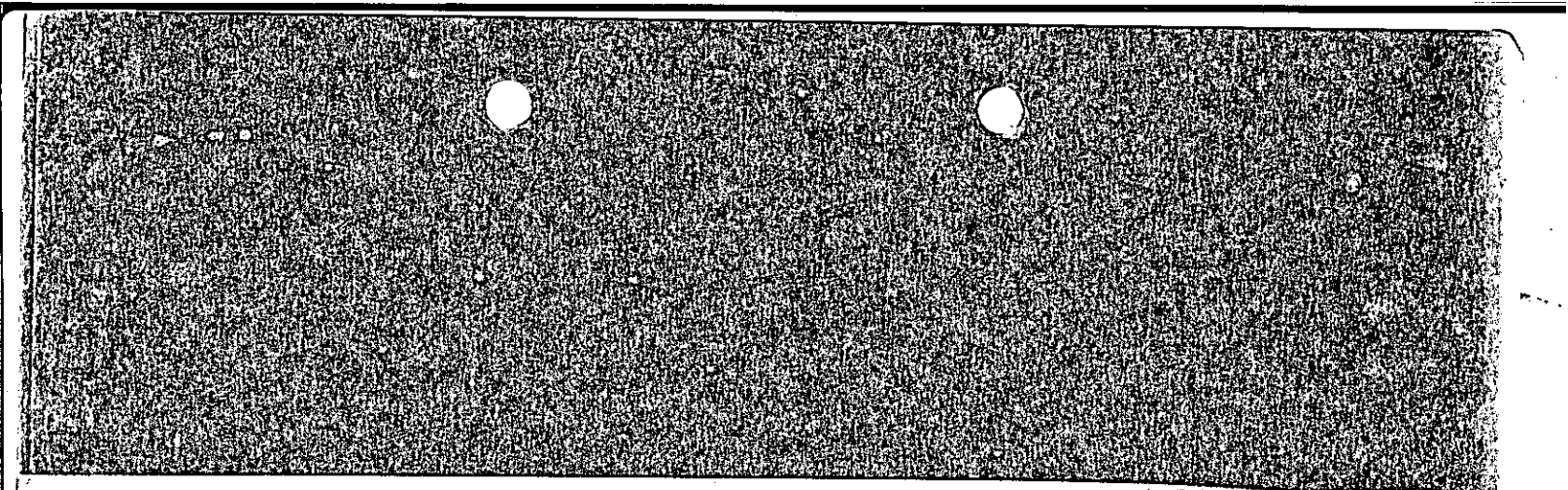
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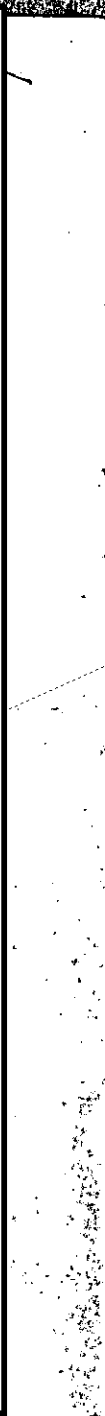
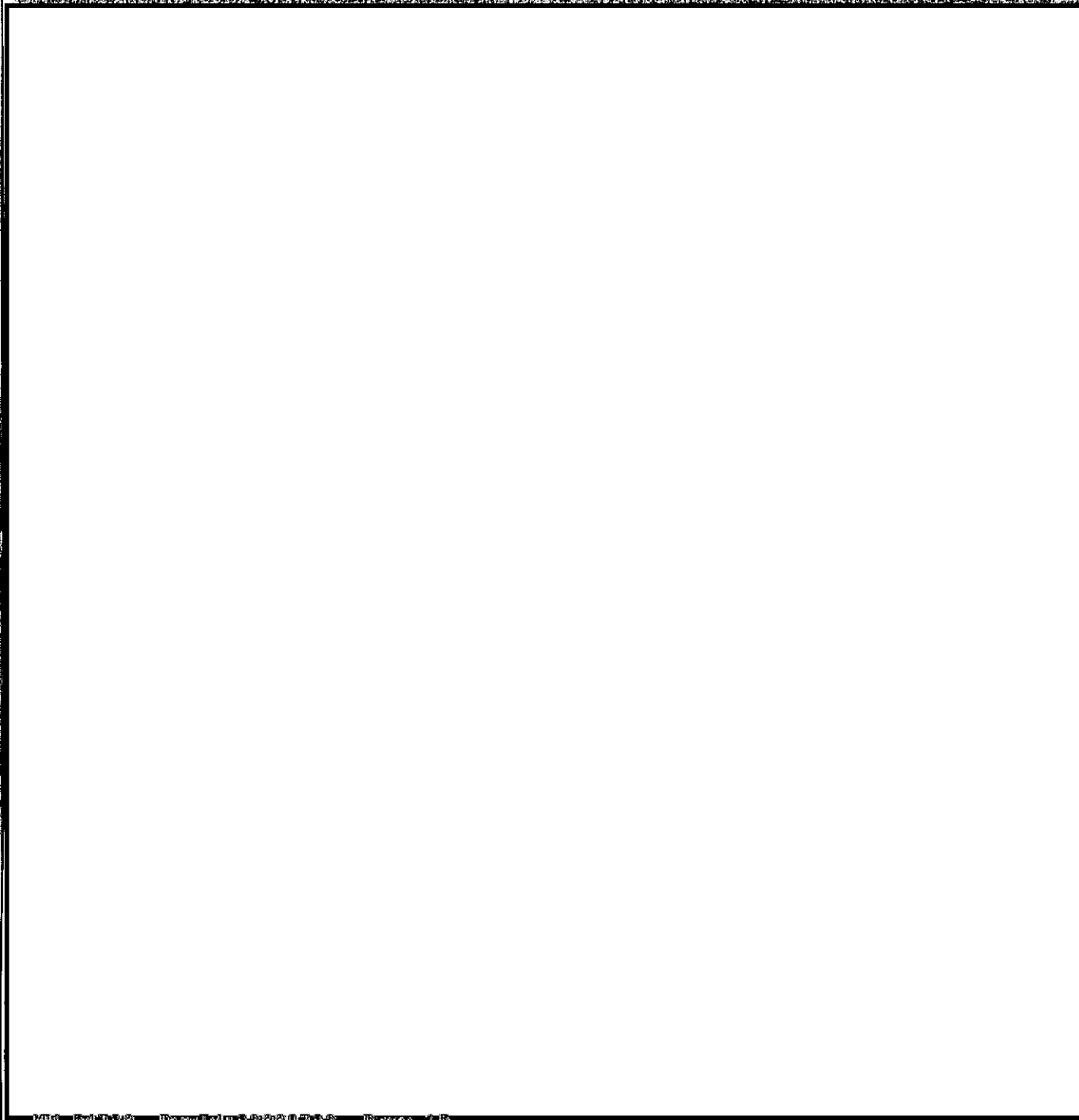
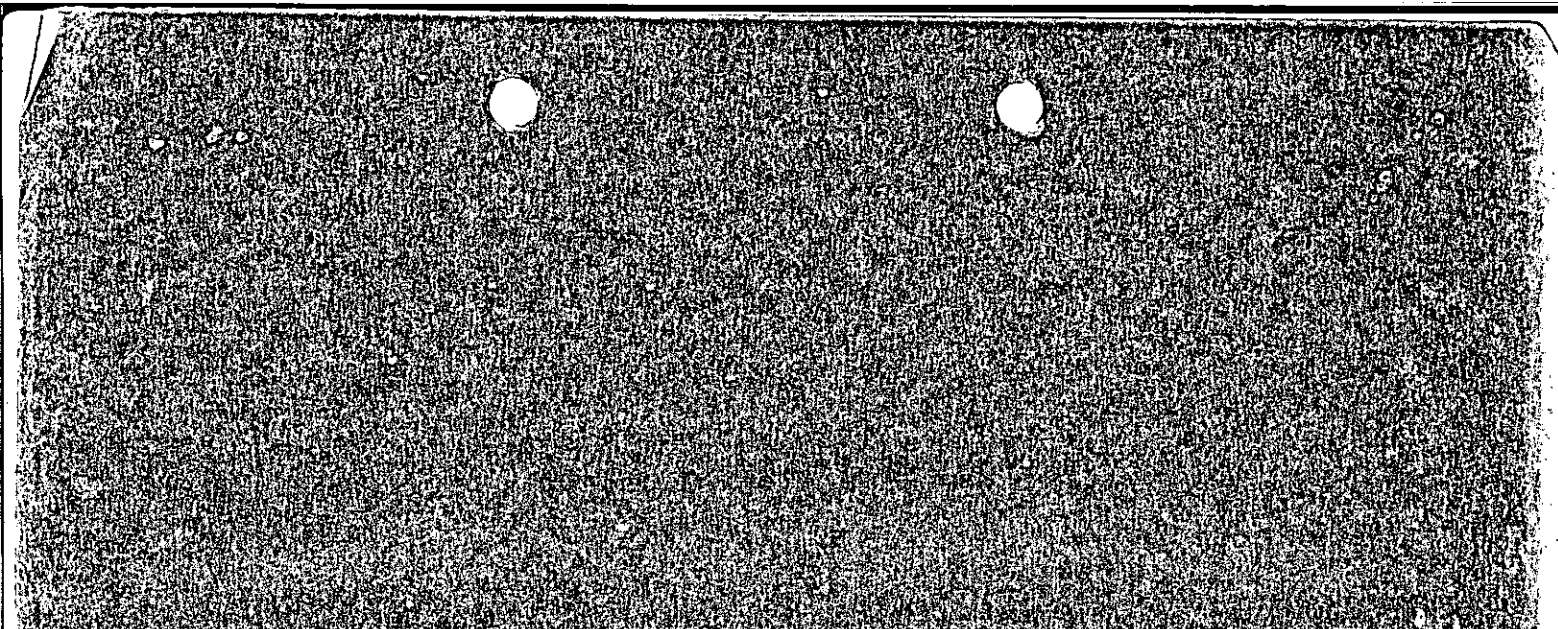
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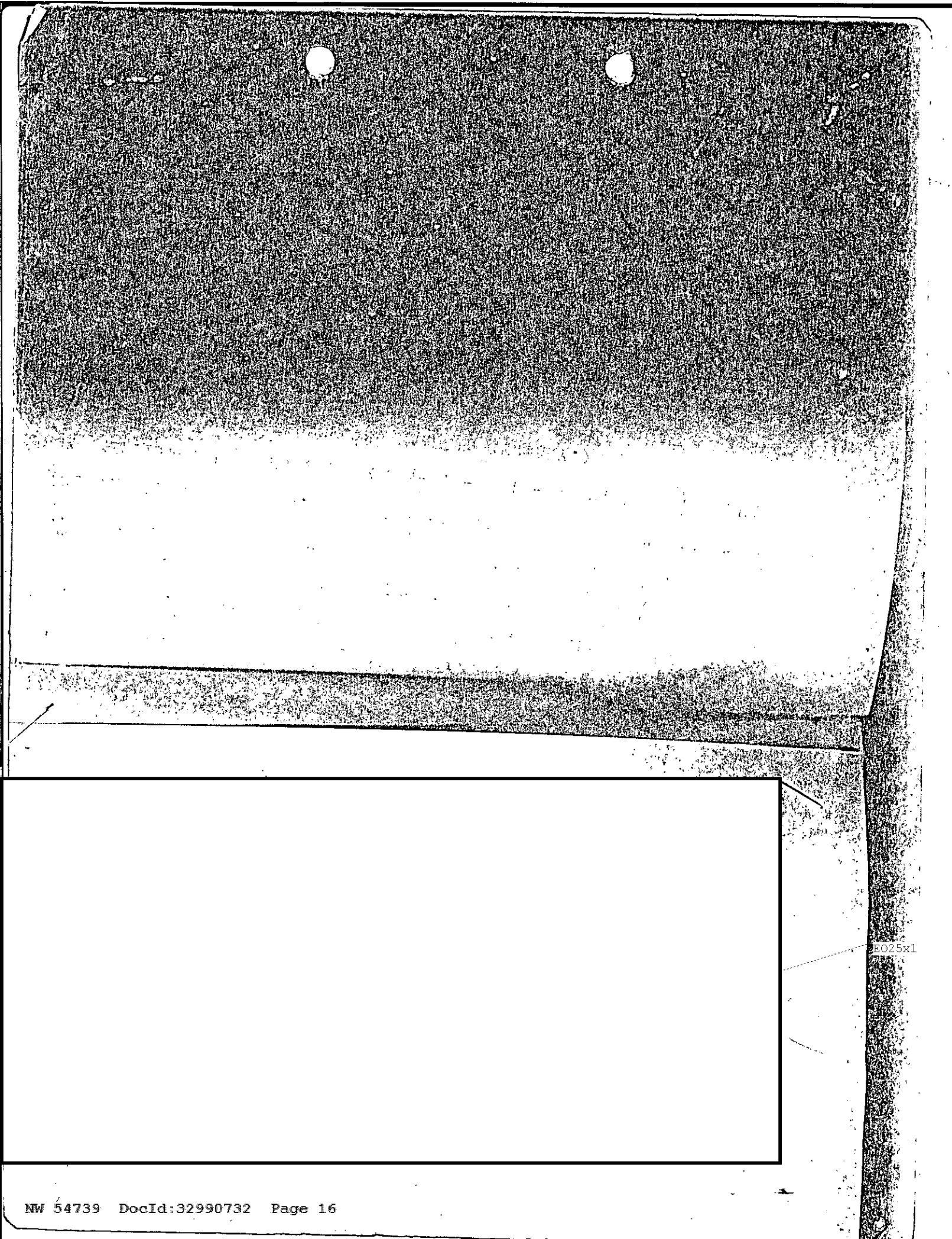
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